

Seashore Shanties

The Fishermen's Friends are shantying on the Platt;
(I listen in comfort while at home I stay)

of ships, drink, foreign parts – and girls – they sing
“Rock and roll me over one more day”.

Fisherfolk, builders, various crafts you'll find
- I listen intently but still at home I stay –

this band of knowing angels, better than ever.
“Rock and roll me over one more day”.

It's cold outside, but music keeps them warm;
I listen with pleasure though at home I stay.

Another reason why this village rates.
“Rock and roll me over one more day”.

They share with us the fancies we all have
- I listen in safety, for at home I stay –

of being young and wild; the world is theirs
“Rock and roll me over one more day”.

A little time for us to dream we're free
adventurers, on the safe side of the sea.

I listen with joy, but warm at home I stay
“Rock and roll me over one more day”.

Graham Tayar

Port Isaac, June 2005

*NB The writer lives – some of the time – a convenient
15 yards from the harbour*